SIR IOHN HOLLAND

HIS

SPEECH in Parliament.

Declaring the great and manifold grievances of this Kingdome, both in Church and Common-wealth.

Occasioned by the wicked practises and Arbitrary power of the disturbers and subverters of our peace, our liberties, and our Lawes.

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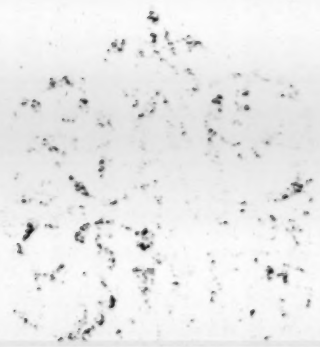

SIR

JOHN HOLLANDS SPEECH

IN PARLIAMENT.

Mr. Speaker:

THE times of Action are not for *Rhetoricke* and *Elocution*, which emboldens mee to rise, and though I muſt needs know my ſelfe to be one of the youngeſt Schollers, and youngeſt proficients, in this great Schoole of wiſedome, yet I conceive it a great part of my duty at this time, both to deliver my ſenſe and Conſcience.

We are called hither, Mr. *Speaker*, by the Kings Regall power, we ſit here by the Kings Majeſties grace and favour: and ſince his Majeſtie hath bin ſo gracious as to leave the *Government* in our hands, I doubt not, but we ſhall lay ſuch a foundation, the beginning of this *Parliament*, that we ſhall make it a happy age, a long and a laſting one, ſince the eminent dangers of theſe times, the preſent diſtempers of theſe eſtates; herein his Majeſty and our owne neceſſity, yea and the Kingdomes ſafety, doth require it,

we are now called as I conceive of the report now of his Majesties *Declaration*, for 4. principall causes.

1. *First, The supplying of his Majesties wants.*
2. *Secondly, For the relieſe of our Brethren.*
3. *Thirdly, For the redreſſe of our grievances.*
4. *And Fourthly, For the remove of the Scottiſh Army.*

That his Majesties wants are great and many, Mr. *Speaker*, I thinke there is no body doubts, and it is as certaine our grievances are so too, they are great and many both in Church and Common-wealth.

I shall but touch them in either, since they have already beene so fully demonstrated, both in the Church, by the usurping power and pacification of some *Prelates* and their adherents.

By which meanes, many great dangers, innovations of Doctrine, of Discipline, of Government, have beene thrust out upon us, by publique sufferances and Priests, & Jesuites permitted and suffered, not onely to come, but to abide and reside in the Land, by which meanes the number of the Romish Catholiques are dangerously multiplyed, Idolatry encreased, and Gods heavy Judgement is highly provoked in the Common-wealth, by the late and great innovations of the Prerogative Royall, which have broke out, and almost overturned all our liberties, even those which have beene best and strongest fortified, the great *Charter* it selfe.

Mr. *Speaker*, that which hath beene so often, so solemnely confirmed by succession of so many Princes, ratified by his Majesties Raigne, founded by former

mer ages, purpoſed to keepe the beames even and right, betweene Soveraigne and Subject.

This Mr. *Speaker*, the deareſt and ſureſt part of our inheritance, hath beene infringed, broken and ſet at naught, In the Common wealth the over-potency of ſome few great ones, ſacred Counſellours of State, frō whoſe advice 'tis thought the greateſt part of their diſtempers, under which the body of the Common-wealth at this time labours, derives their originals, by their miſchievous practiſes, and policies of ſome ſubtle projectors, which under the title of the Kings profite, and goods, and the publique good, have entituled themſelves to a vaſt and great eſtate, and by the dammage of the whole Kingdome,

They are Mr. *Speaker*, the very Mothes and Cankers, that have eaten out all Trade and Commerce, the very beauty, health, and ſtrength, and the life of this famous Iſland, in the Common-wealth by the over long, large entertainment of forrainers and ſtrangers, and that at his Majeſties exceſſive charge, by which meanes his Majeſties Coffers are emptyed, his Revenue ſhortned, and the Kingdome many other wayes oppreſſed.

But Mr. *Speaker*, I ſhall not travell my ſelfe any further, in ſo long, ſo vaſt a field, I ſhall now ſhortly repreſent my owne weake apprehenſions of our progreſſions in all theſe particulars, for which we have beene called, and in all humility ſubmit them, and firſt of his Majeſties ſupply.

I doe humbly desire we may proceed therewith in due time, and that with all Loyalty, Dutie, and Liberty, as ever any People expressed towards their Prince, J thinke I may confidently say, the present affaires of the Kingdome require it, in the relieſe of our *Brethren* in the *North parts*, with a sense of Charity, and fellow-feeling of their *Miseries*, *Afflictions*, and *Losses*, and the Remove of the Scottish forces, with a soft and gentle hand, of moderation, pacification, and reconciliation, if possible it may be done with his Majesties Honour, and the Kingdomes safety: If not, and that they shall still refuse to part in peace, then to Repell and Repulse them with force and Rigorous spirits, with valiant and united hearts and hands, such as shall best become the Honour and Antient Renowne of our English Nation.

In Redresse of our Grievances of those of the Church, which ought to have the priority in our consultations, aswell in respect of the necessity and dignity: In these, *Mr. Speaker*, I doe humbly desire, and doubt not but we shall proceed with all true Piety, and well and right grounded zeale towards God, his house, & his truth; In these of the *Common-wealth*, with a Religious care of the Countryes freedome in the faithfull performance of the trust reposed in us, by them that sent us, in preservation of our antient Rights, the Rights of our inheritance, our Liberties, our Priviledges, our Properties, yet in all, *Mr. Speaker*, I doe humbly sue, we may proceed as best suiting the Nature and condition of these distemper'd times,

as

as best becomming the Honour, Dignity, and Wisedome of this, so great a Court, so great a Counsell, with all Temper, Modestie, and all due Moderation.

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